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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

REPORT NO.

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SUBJECT Conditions in the Swatow Area

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REFERENCES

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1. In July 1953 Swatow administrative offices were in Ch'ilu (1142/4389), Swatow. Political prisoners were kept in an area at Shihpaot'ai (approximately N 23-20, E 116-40), near the Swatow airfield. The public was not allowed to go near the area. The headquarters of the Swatow Federation of Labor Unions was at the former Ta Chung Hua (1129/0022/5478) Hotel.
2. The headquarters of the Swatow Seaman's Union was at Yung Ho (3057/0735). The chairman of the Swatow Seaman's Union was HSU Chen-shui (6079/6966/3055), a native of Haishan, East Kwangtung; the political advisor was LIN P'eng (2651/7720), a native of Chiehyang (N 23-32, E 116-20). No initiation fee was charged for membership in the union. The cost of a membership booklet was JMP 2,000, and monthly dues were .01 percent (sic) of a seaman's wages. Regular meetings were held generally to discuss problems of production. No seaman could work on a ship unless he was a member of the union. Since evidence of membership in the union was sufficient identification for travel, no travel documents were needed by members of the union.
3. In July 1953 new barracks were under construction on the island of Techou (N 23-20, E 116-46). During May 1953 Swatow authorities had conscripted 400 to 500 unemployed men and sent them to Sangp'ushan (N 23-30, E 116-32) to build fortifications.¹

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